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THE 25

FLAGS

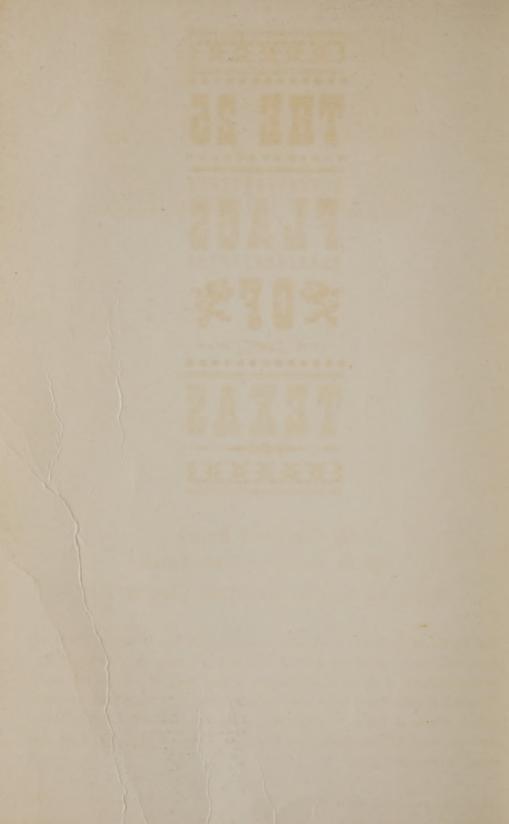


TEXAS

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By Garland Roark

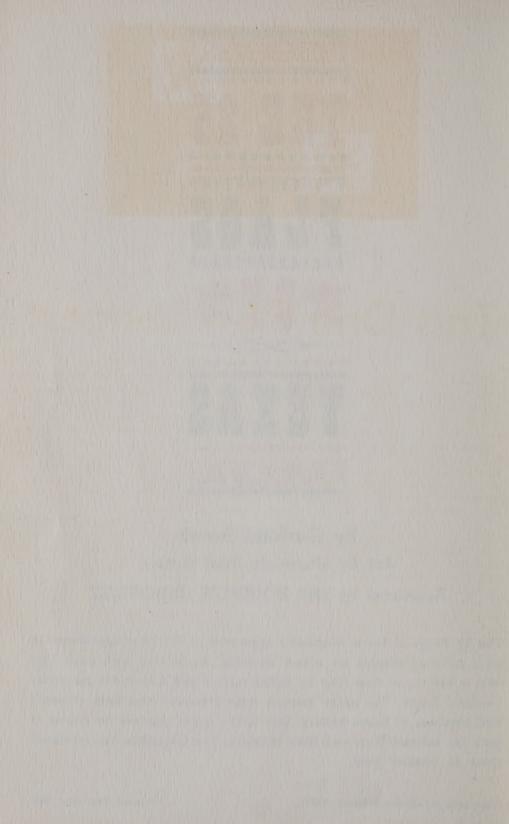
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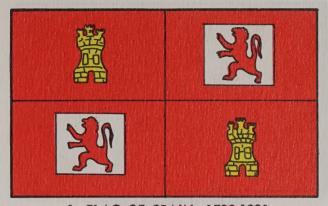




By Garland Roark Art By Chronicle Staff Artists Reprinted by THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE

The 25 Flags of Texas originally appeared in The Houston Chronicle as a coloring contest for school students. Appearing with each flag was a history of that flag by noted author and Chronicle columnist Garland Roark. The series created wide comment from both students and teachers of Texas history. Due to the great demand for copies of both the colored flags and their histories, The Chronicle has reprinted them in booklet form.





FLAG OF SPAIN, 1528-1821
 First of six national standards to fly over Texas.

This One Flew Longest

THERE'S something about a flag that stirs men and nations. Texas can boast of 25 banners. Six were national, 11 were official and 10 bore a single star. Each was important to the game of empire on the vast Texas stage, a game that began 442 years ago.

In 1519, a Spanish naval expedition under Capt. Pineda sighted the Texas coast east of Galveston. Driven west by storms, Pineda entered a bay for shelter, said mass and named it Corpus Christi. He drew a fairly accurate map of the Gulf of Mexico, the first of any part of the North American mainland.

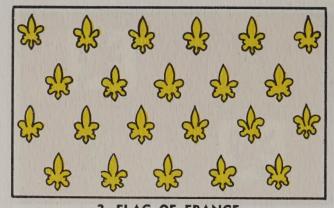
Nine years later, a raft of the Narvaez expedition was wrecked on Galveston Island. While Cabeza de Vaca may have salvaged no flag, his adventures as captive and white god of the Indians until his escape in 1534 spurred Coronado to seek permission from Mendoza, Spanish viceroy, to seek the rumored Seven Cities of Gold.

With Coronado, the crimson and gold

flag of Spain came to Texas in 1541 to stay until Mexico won her independence in 1821. The flag he carried bore the three-towered castles or forts of Castile and the lion of Leon. This, the heraldic emblem that united the two kingdoms of Spain prior to the year 1300, was the first of Texas' six national flags. Under it, the Spanish searched for gold in Texas for more than 150 years. Only the alarming news of French aggression prompted colonization.

Under the flag of Spain, Texas, first known as Amichel, got her name when De Leon, sent to destroy La Salle's colony, met the tribe of Las Tejas In dians. Tejas meant friend.

Under this flag, which flew over Texas longer than the combined years of all flags since, dedicated Catholic missionaries came to colonize and build missions. Their lasting influence remains in tangible form, part of our heritage from the flag of Spain.



2. FLAG OF FRANCE
Brought to Texas by LaSalle in 1685.

The Banner of Texas' First Colony

THE WHITE banner of France, sprinkled with golden fleurs-de-lis, waved over the first colony in Texas but reached our shores by accident in 1685.

It came with Sieur de La Salle, a man of great vision possessed with the energy to make his dreams come true. Born at Rouen, Normandy, and trained for the priesthood, he answered the call of adventure and sailed for the New World at the age of 24. In the three voyages of exploration preceding his ill-fated Texas venture, he established a fort at Montreal, Canada, traded for fur with the Indians, sailed the Great Lakes to the site of Chicago and explored the Mississippi River, called by the Indians "Mische Sepe," to its mouth in 1682.

After claiming all land touched by the tributaries of the great river for his sovereign Louis XIV, he went to France for colonists and supplies. He returned in 1684 to establish a colony at the mouth of the Mississippi, but his ships Aimable, Belle and Joly bypassed the intended destination and reached Matagorda Bay on the Texas coast in January of 1685.

With over 400 colonists, consisting of a few families, workmen, adventurers, priests and friars, all dreaming of gold and silver and fountains of youth, La Salle erected a fort near the site of Indianola and called it Ft. Saint Louis. Suffering the loss of ships, mutiny and desertion, La Salle secured horses from the Indians and set out overland for Canada to secure aid. He was killed by his own men on March 13, 1687, at the age of 44, near Navasota. Most of his colonists perished.

The great plan of the French failed, though it served to arouse jealous Spain and hasten her colonization of Texas. And under the Lilies of France, our second national flag, the first poultry, hogs, farming tools, bells and a library came

to Texas 276 years ago.



3. GUTIERREZ-MAGEE EXPEDITIONARY BANNER First flown in Texas in 1812.

The Green Banner of Conquest

THE colors of the many flags of Texas run the gamut, and one of the plainest of all was the third to fly over Texas. The solid green banner of the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition of 1812-13 spurred an important episode of Mexican revolt against Spain. And green, for independence, later appeared in the Mexican tricolor.

This filibustering expidition began in 1811, when Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara, an envoy of Mexican rebels, secured vague promises of aid from American officials in Washington. With a letter of introduction to Gov. Claiborne of Louisiana, Gutierrez reached New Orleans and was introduced to Pres. Monroe's observer. Here was a cause, and New Orleans responded to the winning of Texas for the United States.

An army was assembled at Natchitoches, La., and Gen. Toledo, with a Philadelphia printing press, was waiting to fan the cause of revolution in Texas. And Lt. Augustus Magee, graduate of West Point, and then in the American Army, crossed into Texas on August 12, 1812. After scattering royalist troops with only 130 men, he entered Nacogdoches, where Toledo published "The

Gazette," Texas first newspaper.

Attracted by promises of booty and freedom, Mexican and Indian recruits swelled the army to about 700 men. With this force, Magee drove Spanish Gen. Salcedo's army to San Antonio. Magee died in February of 1813. Samuel Kemper took command and defeated Salcedo in February, and won over royalist Herrera's 1200 men on March 29, 1813.

In April, Gutierrez was made governor. When he executed 14 royalist officers, including Herrera, Kemper and many Americans returned to Louisiana in disgust. Then Toledo, who had quarreled with Gutierrez, was recalled, but not before Henry Perry won another victory for the filibusters in June. On August 18, 1813, the royalists numbering over 4000 won over Toledo. But before this Gutierrez had retired to America.

Thus the green flag of conquest under the guise of independence fell, leaving Texas to Spain as before. But the flag symbolized a cause and aroused such interest in Texas and freedom that it can be credited with speeding the inevitable.



4. VENEZUELAN COLORS

Flown over Galveston by Jean LaFitte, 1817 to 1821.

When Piratehood Was in Flower

IN SEPTEMBER of 1817 a curious new banner appeared on the Texas coast. The yellow, blue and red was the flag of the revolutionary government of Venezuela. The man who flew it at sea and over Galveston was the famous smuggler and privateer Jean Lafitte.

Following the rout of the Gutierrez-Magee Epedition in 1813, pirate Luis de Aury, who bore down on any ship carrying booty, took over Galveston and with members of Napoleon's old guard who had settled near Liberty, Texas, invaded Mexico to fight against Spain. When Mexico failed to rally to his support, De Aury returned to Galveston in 1817 to find Lafitte firmly implanted there.

De Aury wisely departed, leaving the colorful and powerful Lafitte to complete his luxurious red mansion, "Maison Rouge," in the village he called Campeachy.

Historians find it difficult to label

Lafitte a pirate, for he captured only enemy Spanish ships. He was more the arch smuggler, the man who organized the Brotherhood of Pirates in 1808 and disposed of their loot in New Orleans to better advantage.

Following his aid to Gen. Jackson against the British in the Battle of New Orleans, he accepted a letter of marque from the revolutionary government of Venezuela and later settled in Galveston, where he was appointed governor of Texas by the Mexican republicians.

When one of his men robbed the American schooner Lynx near Sabine, Lafitte had him hanged. Another vessel was robbed and scuttled, and the United States sent Lt. Kearney of the U.S.S. Enterprise to rid the coast of Lafitte in 1821.

After burning his village, Lafitte left Galveston, and the yellow, red and blue bars of Venezuela disappeared from the Texas coast.



5. FIRST LONE STAR FLAG

Brought to Texas by Dr. James Long in 1819.

Designed by 'Mother of Texas'

THE FLAG of the Long Expedition, the fifth to fly over Texas, represents another filibuster attempt to overthrow Spanish rule in Texas. It also symbolizes the dreams and ashes of an empire. This red and white flag is historically significant in that it bore the first lone star to wave over our state.

Dr. James Long was one of the many Americans who believed that Texas should belong to the United States. A surgeon in the army at the Battle of New

Orleans and a favorite of Andrew Jackson, he was perhaps sharing the dream of Jackson, the same that touched Sam Houston later, to bring Texas into the Union.

Jane Wilkinson of Natchez, niece of Gen. Wilkinson of the United States Army, was only 14 when Dr. Long, then 19, visited her home to attend a sick soldier. It was a case of love at first sight, and the following year, 1815, they were married. Wealthy in her own right, she placed her means at his disposal. Four years later Dr. Long and 75 followers left for Texas, carrying a silk flag with 13 alternate stripes of red and white and a single white star in a union of red.

In June of 1819, the flag designed by Jane Long flew over the Stone Fort in Nacogdoches. Here Long declared Texas a republic. Jane traveled by horseback to join him, but when Spanish authorities scattered his small band, he and Jane left Texas. They returned in 1821, and established a fort at Point Bolivar on Galveston Bay. Prior to this, Long had sought the aid of Jean Lafitte, who refused him.

Long left his wife and a few soldiers at Bolivar and marched on Goliad, took the fort only to lose it and find himself a prisoner. He was taken to Mexico where the American ambassador secured his freedom. Several days later, he was shot by a Mexican soldier.

Jane waited at the fort, now abandoned by the soldiers, and somehow fed her child and Negro maid on fish and oysters, keeping the Karankawa Indians at bay by firing a cannon. During the hard winter of 1821, she gave birth to her third child, the first known white to be born in Texas.

She waited for her husband's return. Upon learning his fate, she joined Austin's colony in 1825. In 1832, she hid the first gunpowder smuggled into the province by angry Texans in the outhouse of the American Hotel which she operated in Velasco.

What happened to their lone star flag is not known, but it lives in the memory of Texans, as does its designer Jane Long, lovingly remembered as the "Mother of Texas."



6. FLAG OF MEXICO, 1821-36
The third national emblem of Texas.

Santa Anna Reign Begins

THE MEXICAN tricolor, our third national standard and the sixth flag that came to Texas, was a welcome emblem to Texans of the 1820s. The flag was the result of Mexico's struggle for independence from Spain, which was finally won on Sept. 27, 1821.

The spirit of the flag of Mexico was in the making long before Napoleon Bonaparte contributed to the inevitable end of Spanish rule in America by placing his brother on the throne of Spain in 1808. War-weakened, once powerful Spain lost South and Central America and Mexico, and largely because her colonial policy was the same in 1821 as in 1521.

With freedom from Spain, Mexico favored the United States as a model for its government. She became a republic and published a constitution in October, 1824.

Stephen F. Austin and other colonists approved and looked forward to good government and prosperity in the province of Texas. They, therefore, welcomed the new banner with its guarantees of freedom from oppression emblemed in its_design.

The flag consisted of three vertical

bars: Green for independence, white for religious purity, red for the union of the Spanish population with the Mexican. The coat of arms in the center stripe of white lent Mexican character to the flag by picturing the old Aztec legend of the eagle's triumph over the serpent.

Despite all the flag signified, conditions of government in Mexico resolved into political instability almost before the standard was unfurled. There was no change until 1832, when Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, hero of Tampico in 1829, seized the government from Bustamente.

Santa Anna's promises to defend the constitution of 1824 so pleased the Texans that they drove Bustamente's forces out of Nacogdoches because he would not declare for Santa Anna,

It was not until heavy tariffs and tonnage fees were imposed on the Texans, and Austin was imprisoned in Mexico, that the colonists began to doubt Santa Anna and eye the Mexican Eagle over the custom houses with growing resentment.

The Mexican flag flew over Texas until 1836.

INDEPENDENCE FREEDOM AND JUSTICE THE STATE OF THE STATE

7. REPUBLIC OF FREDONIA BANNER, 1826-7
A flag of rebellion.

Colonizer Engineers Uprising

HAYDEN EDWARDS wrote a significant chapter in Texas history with his ill-starred Republic of Fredonia, in 1826.

A wealthy Mississippi plantation owner, Edwards heard of the millions of acres in Texas which Mexico was making available for colonization. With his brother Benjamin, he presented his petition in Mexico in 1823, contemporary with Stephen F. Austin's visit there to secure favorable regulations governing colonization. Securing his grant, empresario Edwards reached Nacogdoches in 1825 and bluntly ordered all colonists of the area to prove title to their lands or get out by the time he returned with families from the United States.

Trouble Mounts

Upon his return, he was flooded with false and true prior claims, many of the latter dating back to grants from the Spanish crown. He thereupon ordered all colonists to pay for their land or move. The result was trouble, and Edwards penned complaints to the Mexican political chief of San Antonio, who decided Edwards' letter was an affront to Mexican authority.

Not only was Edwards' grant cancelled, he was ordered to leave Texas. But Edwards had too great an investment in his colony, so he and his brother decided to rebel. After treating with the Cherokee Indians, promising to divide East Texas with them, they headed a band of colonists and charged the stone fort in Nacogdoches and replaced the Mexican flag with the flag of the Republic of Fredonia.

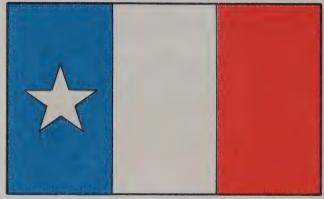
The banner consisted of two bars, the upper white, the lower red, the colors denoting the union of white men and red. Upon the white bar beneath the legend "Independence, Freedom and Justice," Edwards set a precedent unduplicated in the history of flags by placing on the banner the names of 13 of his supporters.

Austin Acts

The news of this uprising distressed Austin, who promptly sent militia to restore order. But loyal colonists took over before Austin's men or Mexican forces from San Antonio arrived.

Although American Secretary of State Henry Clay assured Mexico that his government had neither encouraged nor aided the Fredonians, Mexico was skeptical. Distrusting Anglo-Texans, the Mexican government reversed its liberal colonization law.

But Hayden Edwards had planted a word and an idea in Texas—INDEPENDENCE.



8. DODSON'S BANNER, 1835

The first Texas tricolor.

Forerunner of Today's State Flag

THE FIRST seven flags over Texas symbolize discovery, colonization, filibustering and rebellion. The fall of 1835 produced six more. Born of anger and impulse, these flags had the effect of old wine and trumpet blasts. For Texans had a cause.

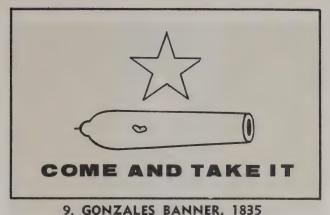
It began in 1832 when Mexico forced unjust taxation of Texas shipping and established garrisoned forts at all customhouses. Furthermore Santa Anna, whom Texans had supported, had imprisoned Stephen F. Austin in Mexico. Then, in August of 1835, the Mexican warship Correo de Mejico seized an outbound schooner off Velasco. The Mexican warship was captured in battle.

With Mexico aroused and Austin no longer a pacifist, Texans expressed their

feelings with guns and new banners. The first of these banners, the forerunner of the present Texas flag, was created at the outbreak of hostilities on Sept. 19, 1835, in Harrisburg by Mrs. Sarah Dodson for her husband's company.

Sarah came by oxcart with Austin's 300 in 1823 and married Archelaus Dodson, who left North Carolina for Texas in 1826. When the Harrisburg company responded to the call for volunteers, Sarah had no silk or bunting and resorted to calico.

Her flag consisted of three squares, blue at the flagstaff with white star central, a white square next and a red fly—the first of red, white and blue to wave over Texas. It flew over Gonzales that fall and led the way to the victory at San Antonio in December.



9. GONZALES BANNER, 1035

The answer to Mexican demand to surrender cannon.

The Bluff That Won a Battle

OF ALL THE impulse flags of 1835, the "Old Cannon" or "Come and Take It" banner was the most spontaneous and challenging. It was made in a hurry and, while it spoke the minds of most Texans of the time, it was created to deal with the matter at hand on

a day in early October, 1835.

By late September, the Texas Revolution was gaining momentum. The arrival of an army under Santa Anna's brother-in-law Gen. Cos on Sept. 20 only fanned the fire. When the army landed at Copano, a Texan "Paul Revere" on a fast horse rode night and day to carry the news to San Felipe. Then, as Cos moved toward Goliad, the citizens of Gonzales were confronted with a request from an emissary of Col. Ugartechea to turn a six-pounder cannon in their possession over to Mexican authorities.

"Flying Artillery"

They not only refused but, expecting the Mexican colonel to send a large force to seize the cannon, hid the Guadalupe River ferry in a bayou to prevent a crossing. Next, they cleaned and polished the worthless old cannon, thought to have been spiked by Lt. Magee in

1813, and built a carriage for it. However, the cannon could make a noise, and had often frightened raiding Indians. So the citizens of Gonzales readied their "Flying Artillery" and awaited the

arrival of the enemy.

Capt. Castaneda, at the head of a company of Mexican cavalry, arrived on the opposite bank on Oct. 1. He saw not only a cannon but a flag of white coarse cotton. It was six feet long and painted in black was the outline of a single star, a cannon and four words. "Come and Take It."

Cannon Booms

This was direct enough, so Castaneda eyed the Texans armed with home-made lances. Next day the cannon boomed out its bluff and the Mexicans asked for a parley. The Texans demanded their surrender, and when they refused the old cannon boomed again, and the Texans advanced.

The Mexicans retreated, and the Battle of Gonzales, called the "Lexington of

·the Texas Revolution," ended.

The "Come and Take It" flag, known also as the "Gonzales" banner was the third flag to carry a single star and the only one that was not colored.



10. McGAHEY'S BANNER, 1835

Considered imprudent at the time.

The Drive for Independence

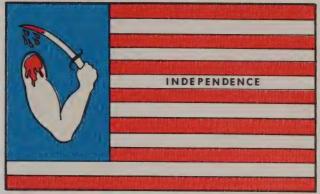
McGAHEY'S (or Scott's) flag bearing a single white star with "Independence" underneath was a dual-purpose flag designed to influence Texans as well as to convince the enemy that nothing less than complete freedom from Mexico would suffice.

The banner appeared at a time when two leading factions were arguing the course Texas should take. One group desired to remain a part of Mexico and preferred to fight for statehood and the rights guaranteed by the Mexican Constitution of 1824, which Santa Anna chose to ignore. Opposed to these conservatives were the radicals, who favored complete severance from Mexico and annexation by the United States.

The Independence flag was made by the latter group prior to the November Consultation of 1835. A prosperous Kentuckian, William Scott, had organized a volunteer company at his Texas home near Lynchburg. He gave his second lieutenant, James L. McGahey, several yards of blue silk for a flag, and an Italian named Llanco painted a white star in the center of the banner to represent Texas standing alone and independent. Below the star he printed in bold capital letters the word "Independence."

The conservatives objected to the word and, considering it most imprudent and untimely, vowed that the flag would not be raised unless and until Texas officially declared her independence. Capt. Scott said he would hoist it and named the day. Though several boats filled with conservatives arrived on the specified date, they did nothing to stop the unfurling.

Scott's company cheered and began its march to Gonzales. McGahey carried the controversial blue and white banner and waved it at the Battle of Concepcion near San Antonio on Oct. 28, 1835. Somewhere between San Antonio and San Jacinto this flag, the fourth to bear a lone star, was lost, but it had answered its purpose by inspiring Texans to strive for total independence.



11. BROWN'S "BLOODY ARM" BANNER, 1835
It declared the captain's desire to fight.

Bold Banner of Defiance

THE desire to fight for the freedom of Texas reached a high pitch in the autumn of 1835, and no banner better proves it true than Capt. William S. Brown's "Bloody Arm and Sword."

There was nothing subtle about it. Its significance was plain and direct, its prophetic suggestion accurate, that Texans could not endure anything short of independence from Mexico and blood would be shed to attain it.

The flag consisted of 13 stripes of alternate red and white, with the word "independence" in blue on the third white stripe. The long union of blue bore an uplifted arm and sword in white, both splashed with red.

Crippling Blow

The flag further characterizes not only the time and the spirited argument between the Conservatives and Radicals on Mexican statehood versus total independence, but the Brown brothers of Brazoria who later commanded two of the four schooners-of-war of the Texas Navy. William Brown of the tiny Liberty dealt a crippling blow to enemy shipping, and Jeremiah Brown of the Invinci-

ble prevented a Mexican invasion of

Texas by sea.

Capt. Brown carried his gruesome banner during the victorious storming of San Antonio Dec. 6-10, 1835. On his return to Velasco just before Christmas of that year, he purposely displayed his flag to members of the Consultation in Goliad and urged them to declare for the independence of Texas at once. A look at his flag whipping in the wind lent animation to the sword and arm and strength to his plea.

Proof of Determination

Brown went on to Velasco, where on Jan. 8, 1836, his convincing banner was unfurled atop the flagpole in front of the American Hotel operated by Mrs. Jane Long, the "Mother of Texas."

Of all the flags that have flown over. Texas, this was the boldest in design. It told a story quickly grasped, that men must be willing to pay for freedom with blood. And to prove that Brown's flag greatly aided the independence movement in Texas, it waved over the Convention of March 2, 1836, that declared for independence.



12. ALABAMA'S RED ROVERS'
Flew at Goliad in 1836.

Red for Courage and Death

THREE blood-red banners have cast their shadows on Texas soil. Before 1750, Comanche Indians planted one made of buffalo hide at Bandera Pass to terrorize the Spaniards. Santa Anna flew the bloodiest of all from San Fernando Mission in 1836, the no-quarter flag. But several months before the massacre at the Alamo, the second red banner came to Texas from Alabama.

In the fall of 1835, the spirit that gripped Texas spread fast over the United States. Among the Americans whose sympathies for the Texan cause spurred them into action were the citizens of Courtland, Ala., particularly Dr. John Shackleford, who furnished arms for 75 members of his company.

Color of the Day

Red was the color of the day, as far as Texas was concerned, and no redder flag was hoisted than Capt. Shackleford's banner of his Alabama Red Rovers. To further portray the name of his volunteers, their uniforms were also a rich red.

The Red Rovers departed from Courtland on Dec. 12, 1835, and reached New Orleans, where their verve and color created a sensation. They left for Texas by ship and arrived at Copano in mid-January. Here and at Goliad, where they marched, their drills held all attention and imparted to Fannin's men their glowing desire for battle in the cause of freedom.

Shocking Massacre

The Red Rovers fought with Fannin, firing guns and cannon until they were too hot to handle. They were with Fannin when he surrendered, and many of them were marched back to Goliad, where on Good Friday of 1836, one of the bloodiest days in Texas history, most of the Red Rovers perished in the massacre that horrified the world.

Thus their flag, red for courage, stood also red for death as the Mexicans sounded the no-quarter at Goliad.



13. FLAG OF 1824

It declared Texans' loyalty to Mexican Constitution.

Conservatives Devised Tricolor

THE FIRST official Texas-made flag I emerged out of the struggle between two political factions. The Radicals demanded a declaration of independence. The Conservatives favored fighting for the rights that had been granted by the Mexican Constitution of 1824.

The issue was decided at the Consultation at San Felipe de Austin. The grand council of Texas met on Austin's birthday, Nov. 1, 1835. Houston, Bowie, Fannin, Wharton, Archer and other leaders were there. On Nov. 7, John A. Wharton and Henry Smith were supported by a dozen Radicals, but the Conservatives outnumbered them 33 to 14.

Allegiance Declared

It was thereby declared that, "The people of Texas will continue faithful to the Mexican government so long as that nation is governed by the constitution and laws that were formed for the government of the political association.

It seems that Sam Houston's reasoning influenced the vote. He believed that Mexican states would rally to help Texas fight Santa Anna if the convention declared in support of the 1824 Constitution.

While the decision of the body did not settle the Radical-Conservative dispute, it resulted in a flag that eloquently expressed the sentiments of the Conservatives. They held to the Mexican tricolor of green, white and red, but replaced the Mexican eagle, serpent and cactus in the central stripe of white with the numerals 1824 lettered in black.

Flew Over Alamo

The official flag joined the impulse and anger banners that flew during the assault on San Antonio in December of 1835, which resulted in the surrender of Gen. Cos and the expulsion of Mexican troops from Texas. It was said to have flown over the Alamo in March, 1836. It was sighted in the Gulf in 1836, prior to the adoption of the Texas Navy Flag in April, flying from ships of the Texas Navy.

The very design of the 1824 flag served as a rebuke to the Mexican government and Santa Anna even as it bespoke the patience of oppressed Texans.



14. NEW ORLEANS GRAYS BANNER, 1835-6
Given to first American volunteers.

The III-Fated New Orleans Grays

WHILE the Consultation at San Felipe de Austin was declaring for a provisional government headed by Henry Smith, appointing Sam Houston commander-in-chief of the army, voting for the creation of a Texas navy and adopting the "1824" flag for Texas—all in November of 1835 — Adolphus Sterne, prominent merchant of Nacogdoches, and other citizens of that city were busy raising troops for the Texas cause in New Orleans.

Companies Organized

There they organized two volunteer companies and outfitted them at their own expense. Both units were known as the New Orleans Grays. One company reached San Antonio in December of 1835 but had no flag of its own. These volunteers sailed from New Orleans to Texas aboard an equipped fighting vessel, the Ocean, a gift from the citizens of Mobile, Ala. The vessel was commanded by Capt. Grayson, later of the famous steamboat Yellow Stone.

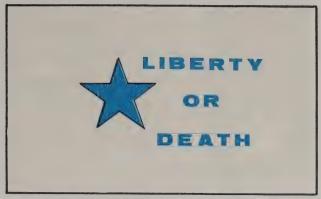
The other company of New Orleans Grays crossed the Sabine en route to Nacogdoches. They had no sooner crossed the river into Texas than the ladies of San Augustine met them and presented Capt. Breeze with a blue silk flag inscribed as follows: "First Company of TEXAN VOLUNTEERS! From New Orleans." Centered in its folds was an eagle with wings spread wide and a streamer in its beak reading, "God & Liberty."

Royal Welcome

In San Augustine they were cheered and feasted. In Nacogdoches they were royally entertained by Adolphus Sterne and the citizens at a banquet table said to have been 150 facts been

to have been 150 feet long.

Both companies of the Grays met in the assault on San Antonio, and from there were sent to Goliad, where the majority were shot in the massacre on Palm Sunday of 1836.



15. WARD-TROUTMAN BANNER

Made by Johanna Troutman for Ward's Georgia Battalion.

Texans Honor Georgia Volunteers

THE fifth flag with a single star to fly over Texas was made in Georgia in November, 1835. Embroidered in blue on white taffeta were a star and "Liberty or Death." The opposite side carried a Latin maxim meaning, "Where Liberty

resides there my country is."

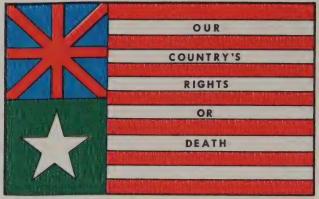
When Joanna Troutman's sweetheart joined Capt. William A Ward's Georgia Volunteers for Texas, she made the flag and presented it to the troops in Knoxville, Ga. Ward's Battalion reached Texas early in 1836, and the flag was unfurled before Mrs. James Long's American Hotel in Velasco on Jan. 8. Also on the flagstaff was Capt. William Brown's "Bloody Arm and Sword" banner.

The flag accompanied the Georgia

The flag accompanied the Georgia troops to Goliad and joined Fannin, also from Georgia. There Fannin was elected colonel and Ward was placed second in command as lieutenant colonel. When the news that Texas had declared for independence reached Goliad on March 8, 1836, the Ward-Troutman flag was unfurled in the celebration. At sunset, the flags were lowered, but the Georgia flag was tangled in the halyards and torn to shreds.

On March 27, Col. Ward and most of his Georgians were massacred at Goliad.

Texans have expressed in many ways their gratitude for the Ward-Troutman banner. After the war Gen. Thomas J. Rusk sent a part of Santa Anna's silver service, captured at San Jacinto, to Miss Troutman in appreciation of her inspiring flag. Joanna Troutman died in 1880, and in 1913 Texans under Gov. Colquitt arranged to have her remains brought to Texas and placed in the State Cemetery at Austin. There a monument was erected in her honor.



16. SAN FELIPE BANNER, 1836

The standard of Mosely Baker's San Felipe Company.

Motto on the San Felipe Banner

THE SAN FELIPE banner, made in Harrisburg, was presented to Capt. Moseley Baker's company on March 2, 1836, by Gail Borden, Jr., publisher of the Texas Telegraph and Register. It was accepted by Captain Baker in a rousing speech.

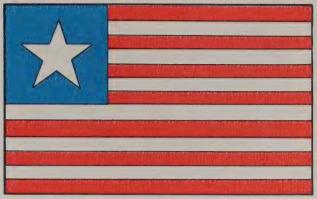
This stirring flag is said to have been designed by Nina Stewart, daughter of Charles B. Stewart who later fashioned our present Lone Star flag. It is also claimed that it incorporated Stephen F. Austin's flag design. Though Austin designed a flag, which carried the English Jack for its union, there is doubt that it was ever flown in Texas.

The San Felipe flag was a departure from the simplicity of Joanna Troutman's "Liberty or Death" banner and the "Independence" flag. It also added green and black to the red, white and blue. Green was the Mexican color for independence. Black was used to pro-

claim on five of the six white stripes "Our Country's Rights or Death."

Though complicated in design, it combined Texas' historical heritage with the struggle of the time into a patriotic emblem. The 13 stripes of red and white represented the United States, mother country of Anglo-Texans. The English Jack pointed to the origin of Americans. the white star in green stood for Texas, her recent alignment with Mexico and the only Mexican state or province declaring herself a new country. The message on the white stripes declared the willingness of Texans to fight for freedom.

Capt. Moseley Baker, who had come from Alabama in 1834, proved worthy of the flag, as did his San Felipe company. They served under Sidney Sherman and took part in the Battle of San Jacinto.



17. TEXAS NAVY FLAG, 1836
Resembled United States flag, aided Texans at sea.

Texas Navy Flag Fooled Mexicans

THE FIRST president of the Republic of Texas, David G. Burnet, could neither forget that Mexico had many warships and transports nor that Texas was vulnerable to invasion by sea.

His navy consisted of four small schooners-of-war, the flagship Independence, the Invincible, Brutus and Liberty. These vessels not only carried the war to the coast of Mexico herself, surprising Santa Anna with Texan temerity, but captured enemy shipping as far away as Yucatan. In addition, the fleet served Texas and final victory by upsetting Mexican plans for a seaborne invasion, which would have cut Texas in half.

Further, the Texas Navy not only defended the Texas coast but, despite the opinions of some historians, hastened victory by cutting Santa Anna's supply line. The navy also prevented his escape to Mexico in the days preceding San Jacinto.

This bantam fleet needed more than sails, guns and the will to fight. It had to resort to every nautical and naval

trick in the book. The 1824 flag at the peak looked like the Mexican flag and, needing the opposite, President Burnet came up with the Texas Navy flag, a masterpiece of deception. It had 13 red and white stripes, a union of blue with the Texas star of white central. From a distance it so blended with the United States flag that it sent enemy warships scurrying in the other direction.

Adopted at Harrisburg by Burnet on April 9. 1836, as the national flag for the naval service of the Republic of Texas, it went to sea before San Jacinto, and served Texas for many years. It was also approved and ratified on Dec. 10, 1836, and actually served as the flag of Texas until 1839.

This, the second official Texas flag, was made at the home of Mrs. Jane Harris by the ladies of Harrisburg. It was said that when President Burnet urged that it be finished, one lady ripped off her red flannel petticoat to complete the seven red stripes.



Only flag that flew at battle of April 21, 1836.

The Only Banner at San Jacinto

OF ALL THE banners that have flown over Texas before or since, none is more romantic or more closely associated with the winning of Texas independence than the San Jacinto flag.

Ten banners of the revolution had waved over Texas soil since early September of 1835, including the offical Flag of 1824, though none of these was known to have appeared on the battlefield on April 21, 1836. The only known standard of that day was the one made by the ladies of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Newport, Kentucky, for the Newport Rifles, organized and financed by Capt. Sidney Sherman.

That flag, now restored and under glass behind the Speaker's stand in the House of Representatves, Austin, was carried in the battle by James A. Sylvester, the man who captured Santa Anna.

Centered in the flag of white silk is the Goddess of Liberty, draped in white and red. In one hand is a flagstaff. In the other is a sword, over which a streamer hangs bearing the words "Liberty or Death."

The night before the Newport Rifles

departed for Texas, a ball was given in Cincinnati in honor of the volunteers. A lovely lady gave Sylvester, the color-bearer, a white glove that evening, saying: "Here, sir, is a gauge of battle. Let it be borne foremost in the fight."

Sylvester accepted it as "a pledge of victory," adding gallantly, "And I'll die before I'll surrender it to a foe." True to his word, he fixed the pledge of victory to the top of his standard and carried the glove above the flag bearing the Goddess of Liberty in the Battle of San Jacinto.

Sidney Sherman's Rifles first unfurled their banner in Texas on Jan. 4, 1836, at Nacogdoches, where they took the oath of allegiance to Texas. In the months that followed, Sherman was elected to the rank of colonel. At the Battle of San Jacinto he commanded the left wing of Houston's Army.

In August of 1836, the San Jacinto flag was presented to the "Lady of Col. Sidney Sherman." In August of 1896, the daughters of Col. and Mrs. Sherman gave the famous flag to the State of Texas.



19. CAPT. BURROUGHS' BANNER
Standard of Ohio volunteers in fall of 1836.

Gift From the Ladies of Zanesville

CAPT. BURROUGHS' flag, as the Ohio banner is often called, was another of Ohio's gifts to Texas in her time of need. Early in 1836, the ladies of Cincinnati had contributed to Sidney Sherman's departure for Texas. Next, they sent the famous "Twin Sisters" cannon which arrived in time to serve Houston's forces in the battle of San Jacinto.

Ohio did not stop there. Even with Santa Anna defeated and a prisoner of Texas, the threat of Mexican invasion still hung over the young republic. In Ohio, the Muskingum County Volunteers under the command of Col. George H. Burroughs intended to help Texans hold all they had won with blood and sacrifice from Mexico. Prior to their embarkation, the ladies of Zanesville presented the volunteers with a stand of colors to inspire their "Texian Emigrants" to remember the deeds of San Jacinto.

A flag of unusual design, it was dark

blue on deep azure blue, gold and white, a gold star central, with one of the letters T-E-X-A-S between each of the five points. Topping the inner rectangle of dark blue was a bird of gold holding a streamer, which swept around the Texas star and bore the words "Hero of San Jacinto." In the lower white border of the silk flag "Zanesville, Ohio" was printed in bold capital letters.

Capt. Burroughs and his Ohioans reached Texas and landed at Matagorda Bay in September of 1836. They reported to Gen. Felix Huston, commanding the Army of Texas at the time. The company remained in the service of the Republic until August of 1837, when it was disbanded.

Ohio gave Texas her eighth Lone Star and 19th banner in the parade of historic flags.



20. BURNET'S FLAG, 1836

First national flag of Republic of Texas.

First Standard of the Republic

THE FLAG designed by David G. Burnet, first president of the Republic of Texas, was the third flag made official by a Texas government. The first was the 1824 Flag, adopted before Texas declared her independence. The second was the Texas Navy flag. Burnet's flag was the first national standard of the Republic of Texas and the ninth to fly a single star over Texas.

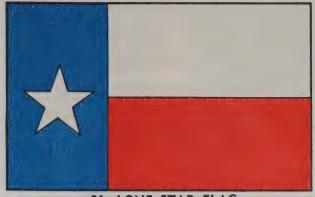
But with all these distinctions, it was never popular in its homeland. Perhaps because Texans, having won their cause, felt no need to rally to it. Or it might have been because the banner was minus the red and white of the American flag.

In any case, it came into being at a time when Texas found herself a free and independent nation without a national flag. But she almost had one nine months earlier when, in March of 1836, a flag designed by Lorenzo de Zavala was accepted by the Convention at Washington-on-the-Brazos. It consisted of a

white star with five letters T-E-X-A-S placed between the five star points on a field of blue. The convention broke up in haste on March 17, when news of the fall of the Alamo and the reported approach of Santa Anna reached the delegates. Thus, in all the confusion, the Zavala flag was forgotten and never made.

The first Congress of the Republic, which met at Columbia in December of 1836, recognized the need for a national flag. Burnet's design, a star of gold on a blue bround, was readily accepted without any mention of Zavala's design approved in March. The members of Congress voted to adopt for the national standard of Texas Burnet's design on Dec. 10, 1836.

The blue and gold flag waved over Texas until Jan. 25, 1839. But even as the national flag of the republic, it was overshadowed by the more popular official flag for the Texas Navy.



21. LONE STAR FLAG

Adopted by Republic Jan. 25, 1839, as national standard.

Lone Star Flag Answered Need

WITH the exception of a single star in its union of blue, the Texas Navy flag was identical to the United States flag. This similarity prompted the Congress of the Republic of Texas in 1938 to appoint a committee to recommend a design for a national standard.

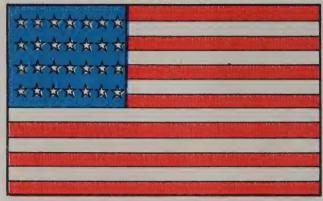
At that time, Burnet's flag, a large gold star on blue was the national flag, having been adopted by Congress in December of 1836. But the Navy flag, also designed by Burnet, was the only one mentioned by Sen. Oliver Jones, chairman of the flag committee, in his report of Jan. 4, 1839, as follows:

"The committee begs leave to make some remarks on the ground upon which their conclusion was formed. The President ad interim devised the National Flag and seal, as it were, in the case of emergency, adopting the flag of the United States of America with little variation, which was subsequently ratified by the law of Dec. 10, 1836. The then adopted flag was expedient for the time being, and has been specially beneficial to the navy and merchantmen, on account of being so much blended with the

flag of the United States. But the emergency has passed and the future prospects of Texas are of such a flattering nature that her independence requires that her arms, seal and standard should assume an independent character by a form which will not blend them with those of any other nation."

Oliver Jones then presented to Congress the design adopted by the committee. This flag carried a single white star in a perpendicular field of blue, and two horizontal stripes of white and red. It was designed by Charles B. Stewart, the second man to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence in March of 1836.

The Lone Star flag was officially adopted on Jan. 25, 1839, and became the fourth of six national flags to fly over Texas. It answered the need for a standard independent in design and character as long as Texas was a Republic. Our state flag since annexation by the United States, it remains one of the most distinctive and beautiful of all standards.



22. STARS AND STRIPES
First flew over Texas in 1846.

National Banner Adds Texas Star

THE LONE STAR of Texas became the 28th star in the Stars and Stripes in 1846. But before that Texas was a national issue in the United States. At the Democratic convention of 1844, the party split on the issue of Texas annexation.

When Polk became President, Congress invited Texas into the Union.

Texans, however, were divided on the subject, and frontier politics had its day. Anson Jones, the fourth president of the Republic, called a convention of delegates on July 4, 1845, to act on the United States' bid. They placed it before the people of Texas in October and a majority voted in favor of joining the Union.

On Feb. 9, 1846, Anson Jones spoke at the inaugural ceremony at Austin. The Lone Star Flag of 1839 flew above the capitol building. He concluded his address with, "The Republic of Texas is no more," then proceeded to lower the Texas flag and raise the Stars and Stripes.

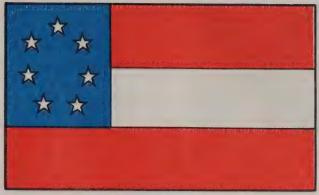
He was followed by the newly elected

first governor of Texas, James Pinckney Henderson, who closed his address with these words: "We have this day fully entered the Union of the North American States—may God forever bless and keep this nation!"

So the 28th star was added to Old Glory, a provision made by an expansion-minded United States Congress on April 4, 1818—"That on the admission of every state into the Union one star be added to the Union of the flag; and that such addition shall take effect the fourth day of July next succeeding admission."

The first flag of our country had 13 stars and stripes representing the original 13 colonies. This stand of colors was adopted by Congress on June 14, 1777. The 13 stars were arranged in a circle to signify there would be no end to the Union.

The Stars and Stripes, our fifth of six national flags, flew over Texas until the War Between the States. With secession from the Union, the Lone Star flag flew over Texas, once more the national standard until the adoption of the Confederate flag.



23. STARS AND BARS, 1861-3

The first Confederate flag and Texas' sixth national standard.

1st Confederate Banner Unfurled

TEXAS was Southern in character and her interests were closely allied with those of other Southern states. On Feb. 23, 1861, more than 44,000 Texans voted to secede from the Union. Some 13,000 voted to remain under the Stars and Stripes. Gov. Sam Houston, a stanch foe of secession, was deposed when he refused allegiance to the Confederacy.

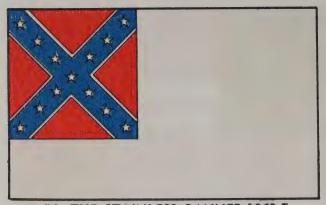
The Stars and Bars, first official flag of the Confederate States of America. was adopted in March of 1861. Between the Texas election and the appearance of the Confederate flag, the Lone Star flag of 1839 became once more the national flag of Texas.

At the beginning of the War Between the States the South had neither uniform for troops nor flag. Recognizing the need for both, the Confederate government advertised for flag designs and found the answer to both national standard and uniform in Marion, Ala.

Nicola Marschall, a Prussian artist who came to America in 1849, taught music. painting and the languages in Marion. At the request of Mrs. Napoleon Lockett of that city, he sketched both the uniform and flag that were adopted by the Confederacy.

The first national standard of the Confederacy was revered by Southerners. Its union was of blue, with seven white stars in a circle. Each star represented one of the seven states that had seceded. Texas was the seventh. Three prolonged stripes, two of red, the center white, completed the famous Stars and Bars.

Unfurled over the first capitol building of the Confederacy in Montgomery, Ala., on March 4, 1861, it symbolized the Southern cause in every corner of the Confederacy, in battles of land, river and sea until necessity forced the adoption of the second Confederate flag in 1863.



24. THE STAINLESS BANNER, 1863-5
It had the popular Battle Flag for a union.

Stainless Banner Fires Imagination

THE SIMILARITY of the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy to the flag of the United States was discovered at the First Battle of Manassas. In the fury of the battle the flags were hard to distinguish by either side, causing untold confusion. Confederate Gens. Beauregard and Joseph E. Johnston were quick to request a flag that would not resemble the Stars and Stripes when hanging limp or dimmed by the smoke of battle.

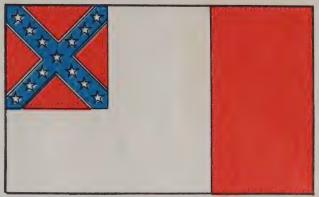
Out of the designs came the famous Confederate Battle Flag, which was adopted by the Army. Though this banner was not an official flag in 1861 or 1862, it answered the need for which it was created. It was a square flag which made it easier to recognize under all conditions and easier to carry.

The design was a St. Andrews Cross of blue running diagonally to each corner and separated from the background of red by a white border. Thirteen stars

of white on the blue cross represented on each bar of the "X" the original seven states of the Confederacy. Also, since eleven states had seceded and two more were expected to follow, each state would have a star.

The battle flag became instantly popular with soldiers and civilians alike. Though unofficially adopted, it was flown from windows and houses throughout the South. When it became apparent that the battle flag had captured the public, steps were taken to change the national standard. The flag committee naturaly chose to incorporate the battle flag in the design of a new flag to replace the Stars and Bars.

Accordingly, on May 1, 1863, the Confederate Congress adopted as its second national flag the battle flag as the union in a field of white. Known as the "Stainless Banner," this official flag flew until March of 1865 when another change was considered necessary.



25. LAST CONFEDERATE FLAG, 1865

It had a red bar at the fly.

Last Rebel Banner Short-Lived

THE 25TH FLAG to fly over Texas was the last Confederate flag. Its life was short for a national flag and it came at a time when hope for all it represented was dimmed by Southern losses on the fields of battle and near starvation of the people. The Northern blockade had at last closed the major ports of the South. Cotton, which had served as gold in foreign ports, lay useless when the blockade runners could no longer run past the Union warships.

Texas, a part of it all in spirit, deed and resources, was caught up in the inevitable fall of a nation which came with the surrender of Gen. Lee on April

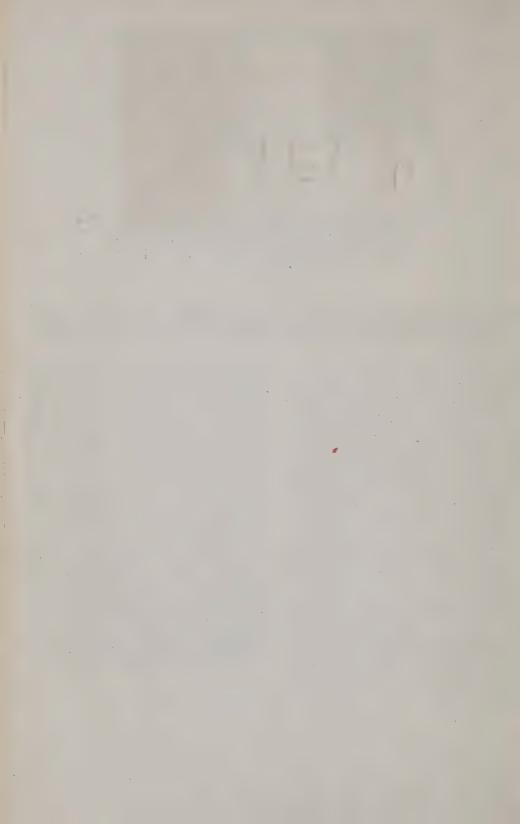
9, 1865.

But on March 4, 1865, 36 days before Lee surrendered under the Battle Flag at Appomattox, the Confederate Congress adopted a new national standard. A few days later Congress adjourned, and the third and last official flag of the Confederacy was almost but not quite forgotten.

The reason for the change from the second national flag, of white with the Battle Flag the union, was twofold. First, its similarity to the British White Ensign from a distance evoked considerable criticism. Second, the white field so overwhelmed the union that when the flag hung limp it was often mistaken for a flag of truce or surrender.

In order to overcome both of these unfavorable impressions, a red bar was placed across the field of the white or "Stainless Banner."

The three Confederate flags, the 23d, 24th and 25th flags of Texas and constituting our sixth national flag, were replaced by the Stars and Stripes with the fall of the Confederacy. But they, as all the flags and inspirational banners that flew over Texas since the crimson and gold of Spain, remain a vital part of Texas and her history.





THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE





